



Summer, 2010

# C-SCDC UPDATE

"KEEPING YOU INFORMED"

## World Changers

At the City of Fort Smith Board meeting held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 17th a recognition ceremony took place.

324 youth from the Southern Baptist Alliance came to Fort Smith to work on houses of low-income residents in the area. Local businesses donated labor and materials to assist in the projects.

C-SCDC's Weatherization Assistance Program partnered with the City of Fort Smith and other sources to complete the windows, doors, insulation and other energy saving measures on one of the homes.

Ten thousand hours of labor was donated with in-kind being over \$100,000. City of Fort Smith Senior Planner, Brenda Andrews stated that this was the first time ever that there was this many volunteer hours and money donated at one time.

## Weatherization News

Floris Weston, U.S. Department of Energy Project Manager Intergovernmental Projects & Outreach Division along with Kay Joiner, State ARRA Monitor, and Rosalind Thompson, State ARRA Monitor, conducted a monitor of C-SCDC's Weatherization Program. Files were reviewed and site visits to completed projects were done. It was a good visit and good information was shared.

The Weatherization Team were also able to show off their new 2011 Chevrolet Silverado 3/4 ton Crew Cab that was purchased using ARRA funds.



*Pictured left to right: Rosalind Thompson, State ARRA monitor and Floris Weston, U.S. Department of Energy*



*Weatherization's New Truck*

## River Valley Community Development Awards

Crawford-Sebastian Community Development Council's Homeownership and Asset Development Center hosted its Bi-Annual River Valley Community Development Awards Banquet on June 23, 2010. The event which was held at the Golden Living Center had 120 in attendance.

Winner of Survivor Samoa, Natalie White emceed the event and attendees were able to get their picture taken with her.

Award winners were Laura Houston, Affordable Housing Agent of the Year; Kralicek Realty, Affordable Housing Broker of the Year; Rausch Coleman Homes, Affordable Housing Builder of the Year; Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas, Community Investment Award; UA of Fort Smith Foundation and the Innovations and Entrepreneurship Center, Innovative Partnership Award; USDA Rural Development, Affordable Housing Funder of the Year.

Alice Rufus, Little Rock Field Office Director, Department of Housing and Urban Development, presented the Recovery Award to the City of Fort Smith for being one of the first in the State of Arkansas to complete their ARRA projects.

The Weldon Ramey Resilience Award which is given to a person who has faced adversity and triumphed, and who has persevered during hardships was awarded to Juan Carlos Gabriel. Born in Guatemala, J.C. had contracted polio at a young age and was left at an orphanage by his natural parents. He came to the United States for medical treatment and was adopted by Linda and Otto Gabriel. J.C. earned his degree in Early Childhood Development in 2005 and works as a substitute teacher for the Van Buren School District. He is a hard worker who has never let his disability keep him from being independent. With the assistance of the Self-Help Housing Program J. C. built his own home last year and was at the site daily scooting out of his wheelchair to help wherever possible.



*Natalie White presented the Weldon Ramey Resilience Award to Juan Carlos Gabriel*



*Pictured left to right: Lisa Spigner, HUD; Matt Jennings, City of Fort Smith; Jamie Fout, City of Fort Smith; Dennis Kelly, City of Fort Smith Administrator and Alice Rufus, HUD*



*Natalie White, Winner of Survivor Samoa and Karen Phillips, C-SCDC Homeownership Center Director*



# ***The Home In My Heart***

Wonderful news! 2011 sees the implementation of a new C-SCDC Children's Creativity Competition.

***The Home in my Heart*** will be an annual children's creativity competition which will take place every February to coincide with Valentine's Day.

Each year the theme and nature of the competition will change, ranging from art and photography to essay and poetry. The competition will be subdivided into three age categories: 0 – 7 year olds, 8 – 13 year olds and 14 – 18 year olds. There will also be a group category where children can work together in pairs or small groups to create their entry. The theme for the 2011 inaugural C-SCDC children's creativity competition is simply taken from the title ***The Home in my Heart***. Children will be asked to create a piece of artwork that represents what home means to them. This piece can be a painting, a sculpture or a unique and individual creation! Entries can be as individuals or small groups. We want to know why home is important to them and the place it holds within their heart.

It is our intention to use local artists to visit local schools and help create some of these masterpieces! With the assistance of a local gallery/venue, the top 24 pieces of artwork will be shown as an exhibition evening with the top three individual winners (one from each age category) and the top three group winners being announced.

We will need lots of partners to be involved to make it great!

If you or anyone you know would like to be on a planning committee, please contact:

Elizabeth Madden-Jones on 479-785-2303 ext 125.

## ***New Faces***



***Elizabeth Madden-Jones***  
***HOC Administrative Assistant/Outreach  
Coordinator***



***Michelle McCool***  
***Weatherization Materials Handler/  
Auditors' Assistant***



***Jessica Taylor***  
***Financial Clerk***

**Executive Director**

*Mark Whitmer*

**Personnel Director**

*Darlene Hill*

**Financial Director**

*Sally Fisher*

**Homeownership Center**

**Director**

*Karen Phillips*

**Weatherization Director**

*Debbie Biggs*

**Child Care Food Program**

*Carol Jenkins*

**Community Dental Clinic**

*Nenya Perry*

**River Valley Regional Food  
Bank Director**

*Stephen Dye*

**Editor**

*Michele Trawick*

*479-785-2303 ext 118*



Patty Park has been with the agency for 11 years. Patty is the agency's Case Manager. She is the mother of two sons and one daughter and has been blessed with one grandson and is expecting a granddaughter in October.



James Martin has been with the River Valley Regional Food Bank for 8 years as a warehouse specialist. James is married and in his spare time he likes to work in the yard.

**Board Members**

*Linda Bryant, Chairperson*

*Cecil M. Greene, Jr., Vice-Chairperson*

*Patricia Free, Secretary*

*Evelyn Wilson*

*Van Ferguson*

*Judge David Hudson*

*Mayor Richard Leakey*

*Veronica Robins (Representative)*

*Judge John Hall*

*Elaine Stanfield (Representative)*

*State Rep. Stephen Breedlove*

*State Rep. Tracy Pennartz*

*Glenda Snow*

*(Representative)*

*Gene Bell*

*Virginia Waldon*

*Michael Shinn*

*Shirley Lee*

*Karen Pearson*

*Abigail Taylor-Cox*

*Mayor Kenneth Edwards*

**Crawford-Sebastian Community Development Council, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 4069, 4831 Armour**

**Fort Smith, Arkansas 72914-4069**

*Mission Statement*

*Crawford-Sebastian Community Development Council, Inc. is a community action agency whose purpose is to make improvements in the lives of low-income individuals, families and the communities in which they live, so that a greater level of self-sufficient living can be achieved.*